Chapter 6
Nephilim
Shinyasumi

Is your relationship with Loraine just physical?
"I love you."
You told me so.
I searched for you.
Please remember.
Remember me.
Remember us, Guy...

BANG
はっ
GASP
If you're up to it, can you come downstairs?
We're having a meeting
How are you feeling, Abel?
Grandpa Eva?

Are you better already?
Hey, Abel.
Um...
I'm fine.
When I went to see you, you seemed to be feeling down.
Well, that's good then
I'm totally fine. But Loraine insisted that I stay in bed all day yesterday.
Hey, that's not a nice thing to say to a girl...
That's something a monkey would do.
I heard you climbed that tree to get some fruit.
You have bad head too!
...but I bet she's very beautiful, also.
I haven't seen the female Abel...
You're the...
Why? Monkeys are cute.

Is everybody here?
Do I look like a monkey?
KLUNK
We have new information I'll explain
Guy...

We found another Nephilim.
Do you know anything about the trade-auction in the neutral ward, Koen?
Yes.
That's the auction sponsored by a very rich man named Kirchhoff and only members of high society are invited.
They won't accept money, only rare items in trade.
That's right. Kirchhoff is going to auction off a Nephilim named Salai there.
Because Nephilim are so very beautiful at night...
...they are traded among the wealthy like pets.
How should we intervene?
LoGuE cannot tolerate this.

A Nephilim is as valuable as an expensive jewel to Kirchhoff.
She'll be heavily guarded, and he'll use his vast resources to find her if she's taken.
That approach won't work this time.
Can't we just sneak in and rescue the target, like we always do?
Do you think the Federation side has any interest in accepting a bribe? Since the September Nephilim Repression Ordinance—
No, no.
That's dangerous, too. What if the officers at the border are bribed?
Couldn't we keep moving her around among LoGuE affiliated guardians?
GLANCE
IT'S STILL EMBARRASSING TO TRANSFORM IN FRONT OF HUMANS...
IT'S ALMOST SUNSET.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS.

TAP
トン
トン
TAP
I WONDER WHAT HE'S THINKING ABOUT.
THIS RESCUE?
OR SOMETHING ELSE?

We should participate.

LORAINE?
OR MAYBE...
トン
TAP

KLUNK
We should take the direct approach and *participate* in the auction.

That's fine.
But it's a "trade" auction, I won't be bidding with money.
Do we have anything valuable enough to convince Kirchhoff to part with his treasure?

Loraine Vesterhagen. Vesterhagen is a noble family of the Empire. It should be easy for you to get an invitation to the auction.
Nobody knows about your ties to LoGuE.

Yes. We do.
Abel?!
Are you saying we'll trade Abel at the auction?
That's right.
Even if we win, then we'll just have to rescue her later!

I checked the map.
There are three bridges Kirchhoff has to cross to return to his manor.
LETHE RIVER
One of them, the Lethe Bridge, is undergoing repair work.
...HE WAS STARING AT ME.
AH... THAT'S WHY....
I've figured out a way to make it work.
We'll stage an accident after the auction.
If some kind of accident happens and the bridge collapses, the carriage transporting Abel will fall into the Lethe River.
Any other ideas?
It's deep enough. Nobody will die from the fall.
I'll rescue Abel before she has a chance of drowning.

Well, your plan just might work.
Ho! The sun went down!
It's a role only you, a Nephilim, could carry out.
Can you do it, Abel?

Of course.

OK. You know how it's supposed to go.
I'll trade Abel for Salai.
Haggard, you come with us as our guard.
Holiday and Guy will take care of the explosion at the Lethe Bridge and Guy will rescue Abel.
Wish us luck.

KOEN. THE NEUTRAL WARD.
Oh, Baron and Baroness Kurz.
Hello, Mr. Vanson. It's been awhile since that last soiree.
Are you after that "living jewel" tonight?
Why, of course! It's said that Nephilim are unbelievably beautiful.
There aren't many left, so I need to get one.
...
Do you know who that lady is?
Splendid!
I've been thinking, the crown made of alexandrite from Van the II, or my painting by Michaelis.
However, it's so hard to decide on a good trade.
SWISH

Gasp!
He looks like an angel.
Oh!
What a beautiful young man...
I am proud to say that I am sure both men and women will enjoy him equally.
During the day, he is such a beautiful woman you will not believe he is real.
I regret that I cannot show you his *daytime* figure.
Well, let me see, has anybody brought a treasure comparable to my Salai?
Let us begin!

CHATTER
CHATTER
Oh, here comes Kirchhoff.
She's quite beautiful.
No, I don't...
I am Mr. Kirchhoff. Welcome to my auction.
Distinguished guests of honor.
SNAP
Bring him here.
Let me show you the most precious jewel that I'm putting on auction tonight.
I am sure that all of you are eager to see him.

She's my type.
I think I could fall for her.
You know, Abel's fun to be around.
The explosives are set, Prince.
I'll be watching for them from the top of the hill.
I'll give you the signal to set them off when they approach.
Yes, sir.
You don't have to glare at me. It's scary.
See you later, then.
Edidia is a good girl.
So is Loraine.

Does anybody have something more impressive for me?
The Purple Pearl Phoenix Statue.
A Fici Rat. A very rare animal from South Abi.
Oh!
I do...
Yes? Beautiful lady?
What is your treasure? I am most curious.

SWISSH
This is my treasure.

GASP
あぁ!
Not only is she as adorable as a fairy...
A Nephilim girl.
...but she has all the colors of the rainbow in her gem-stone eyes.
She's a most precious treasure among treasures.
Wouldn't you agree?

Therefore, I'd prefer to have a Nephilim man...
GIGGLE
...if you know what I mean.
She has never been touched.
...I have no interest in her, being a woman and all.
SMILE
Though she is a useless possession for me.
Truly wonderful!
Well...! Wonderful!
BANG!
I've made up my mind!

わあぁっ
WOOOOOOW
Beautiful lady...
Salai is yours.
ガチャ
CLINK
ガチャ
CLINK
Am I...
...going with you now?
SLIDE
カタ
Well.

I'd like to go to her...
...
I... I have a lover.
She's human...
?!
Where do you want to go?
You are free now.
Then go to her.
The Lethe Bridge should be nearby, I think.
We're still in the forest
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

SHUDDER.
Why don't you sit closer to me, Abel?
THE CUFFS WILL OPEN WHEN YOU PRESS ON THE JEWELS.
TAKE THEM OFF WHEN YOU HEAR THE EXPLOSION.
PANT
PANT
Look here.
Don't be afraid, my pretty little one.
URGH!
Hmm. I'm supposed to take them off when we fall into the water.
I have to be careful not to hit my head when we fall.
Wouldn't you like to play with your nice master?
ARRGH!
Just think of all the things we could do.
Hmm? I'll give you anything you want.
GRRR!
I WANT TO BASH HIM!
BUT... BUT I CAN'T...
I HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS!

You are truly exquisite.
PULL
But a little taste wouldn't hurt...
URGHHH!
No!
HUH?
I had planned to wait until I got you home.
I CAN'T STAND IT!
I'M GONNA KICK HIS ASS!

Ahh!
SMACK
KLONK
Guy...?!
But we haven't reached the bridge...
Ow...
Why have we stopped?!
KABOOM
Guargh!
Coachman!
What are you doing?
SMACK

THUD
Gotcha.
Wow! Look at those rings!
Smart idea waiting for the rich guys coming back from that auction.
Who...?

Hey! Come see this!
I've never seen a girl so beautiful before!
This girl...
There's a girl in here!
Hey!
WHO ARE THESE GUYS?
Sweet.
This might be the best prize of the night.
Oh, yeah!
...BANDITS!
THESE GUYS ARE...

GUY!
! DON'T BELIEVE THIS...
Ohh!
WHACK

I HAVE TO FIGHT.
CLOMP
THEY HAVE GUNS.
What... ...the-?
BUT...
I need to get these cuffs off!
FHUMP
!
BROKEN?!

THUD
Ah!
Heh heh... That's no way for a young lady to act...
I'm gonna make sure you never forget your night out with the boys.
RUSTLE
Mpfh!
Stop!
No! Nooo!
Hey. Why do you have to gag her?
It really turns me on when they scream.
Shut up! Go hide the carriage and the bodies in the woods.
It'll be trouble if somebody finds 'em.

No boobs? She's too young.
Mpfh! Hmpfh!
Get outta the way, I don't mind.
OK, off with the clothes.
RIIIP
DAMN IT!
IF ONLY I WASN'T IN MY TRUE FORM!!
IF ONLY I COULD GET MY HANDS FREE!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING.
NO...
NO WAY!

I saved myself for you...
For you!
Guy...
Did you say something?
Huh?

THUD
DRI
!
CLICK
SPLIT

I didn't have a chance to...
...fight...
I...
SNAP

Don't come any closer!
I... I have a gun.
Who are you?
Who?
GLAZE
BANG
Don't come near me!
TREMBLE
I'll... I'll shoot!
TREMBLE

It's been awhile...
...since I got *this* mad.
GRAB
Stop!
WHACK

GRIP
Oh, no.
You can't leave yet.
RIP
SQUEEZE
I'm not satisfied.
SQUEEZE

CLOMP
Guy...
WHACK
CRASH
PUNCH
Stop, Guy!

THUD
Guy ...
What did they do to you?

Guy...?
Answer me, what did they do to you?
Where?
Did they touch you?
Did they kiss you?

No...
They didn't do anything yet... Why...?
Why do you ask?
Why would you ask such a thing?
It's your fault.
It's because of you...
Holiday...
...Kirchhoff...
...those guys...
...and me, too...

Guy?
...
What's wrong?
Guy...
What are you...
Guy...
SHOCK
SHUDDER
Ah!

Guy...
I'm sorry.
I don't understand you. That's why...
You're mean to me, get angry with me, and then you hold me tight.
I can't ask you about the things that bother me.